

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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EUR/CE - RBECKER

CAB - WBURCH (SUBS)N

CAB - ALARGAY (PHONE)

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R 131721Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098546

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CZECH REFUSAL PERMISSION MAT CHARTER
FLIGHT

REF: A) STATE 95406; B) PRAGUE 973; C) STATE 89871

1. AS NOTED REFTEL A, WE DO NOT WISH TIE QUESTION CSA
OPERATING CHARTER FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE US FOR
DAVIS AGENCY WITH MODERN AIR'S DESIRE TO OPERATE CHARTERS
BETWEEN BERLIN AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HOWEVER, THERE IS
ANOTHER AREA OF CSA'S ACTIVITIES WHERE WE BELIEVE A TIE-IN
CAN APPROPRIATELY BE MADE. THIS IS THE AREA OF SO-CALLED
FIFTH FREEDOM CHARTERS, TO WHICH GENERAL REFERENCE HAS
ALREADY BEEN MADE (REFTEL B AND REFTEL C, PARA 3).

2. THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD ON MAY 7 APPROVED FIVE
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OFF-ROUTE CHARTER FLIGHTS FOR CSA, FOUR OF WHICH INVOLVE

FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE US AND BUDAPEST OR BUCHAREST AND ARE
THUS FIFTH FREEDOM. (AN OFF ROUTE CHARTER IS NOT AUTO-
MATICALLY FIFTH FREEDOM (E.G. PRAGUE-CHICAGO FOR CSA), AND
A FIFTH FREEDOM CHARTER IS NOT NECESSARILY OFF ROUTE
(E.G. FRANKFURT-NEW YORK FOR CSA).) THE CZECH AIRLINE
HAS, HOWEVER, STILL PENDING AT THE CAB A REQUEST FOR TEN
ROUND-TRIP (FIFTH FREEDOM) CHARTER FLIGHTS BETWEEN NEW YORK
AND BUCHAREST, WITH THE FIRST SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 23.

3. EMBASSY PRAGUE IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO APPROACH MFA

ONCE MORE IN FOLLOW-UP TO REPRESENTATION REPORTED REFTEL
B) IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE SPECIFIC FACT THAT, AS EVIDENCED
BY THE RECENT APPROVALS, US CONTINUES TO IMPLEMENT A
MOST LIBERAL POLICY IN RELATION TO FIFTH FREEDOM CSA
CHARTER FLIGHTS. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, POINT
SHOULD BE MADE THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS SHOULD NOT ANTICIPATE
THAT SUCH A POLICY WILL CONTINUE (EMBASSY MAY NOTE THAT
THERE ARE SEVERAL CSA CHARTER REQUESTS PENDING AT THE CAB)
IN THE ABSENCE OF CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT US CARRIERS ARE
OBTAINING RECIPROCAL TREATMENT. APPROVAL OF THE MAY MAT
CHARTER WOULD APPEAR TO BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF SUCH
EVIDENCE.

4. FYI: WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE FACTORS
WHICH MAY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE CZECHS TO REVERSE
THEIR POSITION ON FLIGHTS OUT OF BERLIN, THE ECONOMICS OF
THE MATTER SHOULD WEIGH HEAVILY ON THE SCALE. FOR EXAMPLE
THE US-BUDAPEST AND BUCHAREST CHARTER FLIGHTS BRING AP-
PROXIMATELY \$38,000 (GROSS) PER ROUND-TRIP INTO CSA'S
COFFERS. RUSH

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